

NEW MILITANT

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A MESSAGE TO NEW MILITANT READERS

November 7th saw the first eight-page NEW MILITANT. Next week, the first anniversary of the Workers Party, the second will appear. The proof will then be conclusive of the infinite value added to the only revolutionary paper by its enlarged size. Our members are convinced; they are prepared for the final push to send the regular eight-page NEW MILITANT over the top. The entire machinery of the party is being geared up to high-speed for the attainment of this goal in the shortest possible time. 1,000 subs by Christmas will do the trick. Every branch has its quota and every member his assignment. But our party is small; the members will do their part, but more is needed. We need the help of every sympathizer and supporter of the party to fulfill the goal—and make the eight-pager ours. We need your help. You can get subs from your friends, shopmates and union members. Make your Christmas gift to the Workers Party—send in every sub you can lay hands on. And we will reciprocate with THE EIGHT-PAGE NEW MILITANT!

Fascists Grow Bolder in France after Recent Clash

By H. F. R.
At Limoges on November 17 some 30 French Socialist workers were wounded when members of the Croix de Feu opened fire. "The shooting definitely establishes beyond any possible doubt," says the Daily Worker, "that the Croix de Feu is well-armed for a Fascist coup."
It also proved that the workers were facing the well-armed Fascists with nothing but their bare hands. Cachin, says the Daily Worker, wants to oust Laval because the government "has not yet made any arrests among the Fascist gunmen." What is Cachin going to do about it?
Edouard Herriot, Radical co-minister of Laval, is the present beau-ideal of the Stalinists for premier—or at least foreign minister. But this week "Comrade" Herriot bluntly declared that he was "fully in accord" with Laval, that he would countenance no attempt to overthrow Laval, and that he, Herriot, would not take part in any cabinet designed to succeed Laval's. Dutifully Leon Blum declared before the delegation of Radical-Socialist-Stalinist deputies that any attempt to overthrow the Laval government would be a "dangerous experiment."
"The thing to do, said Blum, was to get Laval to dissolve the Fascist leagues, dissolve Parliament and call new elections."
Will sacrifice "People's Front" Government
One or two Paris reports indicated that the Stalinists, who mortally hate and fear Laval's tendencies to toy with Hitler, are growing fearful. The latest l'Humanite to hand indicates that even the slogan of a "Front Populaire Government" has been forsaken. It is now a simple "government of the left" which the Stalinists demand. And what would this government of the "left" be? A government, writes Jacques Duclos, "which would give life to the resolutions of Wagram" (l'Humanite, Nov. 12.) In other words, the resolutions of the Radical Socialist Party congress which ended on the keynote appeal for "impassioned devotion to national defense!"
Such a government, which will apply, says Duclos, "a left policy," i. e., dissolution of the Fascist leagues—and passionate national defense—"will meet no difficulties from the Communists."
No, hardly. Vaillant Courtour, who marched on November 11 with uniformed, be-medalled war veterans, rhapsodically reported in the columns of l'Humanite that as they marched by, the unanimous electric cry was: "Long live the Republic army! Long live the Republic!"
"The Unknown Soldier has once more found his comrades"—is the headline over the Armistice Day spread in l'Humanite. Tragically, it is true. The Cachins who handed over millions to unknown graves in 1914-18 are today preparing to hand the new generation over to the same fate symbolized by the Arc de Triomphe in Paris with the slab of cold marble beneath it.

CUBAN BOLSHEVIK-LENINISTS SIGN OPEN LETTER

The Bolshevik-Leninist Party of Cuba, now under severe police repression by the Mendelita Wall Street government, has just sent its signature to the Open Letter for the Fourth International to the World Proletariat. The Workers Party of the U. S. is one of the signatories.

Egypt Rises In Revolt

British Imperialism Casts Off Hypocritical Mask in Severe Repression

Britain's great show of defending the national rights of the Ethiopian people is not making such a hit since Britain's own national problem burst forth last week in the Waifist (nationalist) riots in Egypt. At the very moment when Sir Samuel Hoare, the British Foreign Secretary, is oozing righteous sympathy for the poor Ethiopians, and calling for a vastly enlarged navy, for the purposes of defending Ethiopia no doubt, six Egyptians are killed and more than a hundred wounded in riots of resentment against a speech on the Egyptian question by Sir Samuel Hoare. Egypt stands to Britain much as our own Philippines stand to the United States, with the exception that Egypt has already been twice granted an independent constitution, once in 1923 and once in 1930, and twice had that constitution revoked, while the Philippines are just starting their career of so-called independence. The riots are significant in a larger sense as an indication of the colonial unrest stimulated by the Ethiopian war. Britain at first tried to pass the riots off as the work of Italian agents, just as bosses always try to pass off strikes as the work of outside agitators. This explanation is absurd on the face of it, for the riots and the Egyptian people generally are more than friendly to the Ethiopians in their struggle with Mussolini. Today there are reports of wider unrest in Egypt, more demonstrations, a deepening movement. "High Egyptian officials," says the Times, "express fear that more serious troubles are ahead." Nahas Pasha, president of the Wafd movement, said that a protest had been sent to the League and that the Wafd were "seeking the world's sympathy in our struggle."
Nahas Pasha may seek the aid of the league at large through the League of Nations, but the Egyptian nationalist movement can only become a force when the Egyptian workers and poor farmers are enlisted, and when the Egyptian workers appeal not to the world at large, the capitalist world and its Robber League, but to the International working class for support. It is just this possible awakening of the Egyptian workers that causes "high officials to fear serious troubles ahead."

Roosevelt's "Pacifism"

American financial and industrial interests greedily eyeing the rich plum that the huge Far Eastern market means for them, have a worthy servant in Franklin D. Roosevelt, the extent of whose "pacifist" comment is matched only by the extent of his naval program—the largest in recent history. The present construction program extends from 1933 to 1938. It involves an outlay of over \$650,000,000. There are 87 vessels now in process of construction—33 in eight private yards and 54 in eight navy yards. Present employment in naval construction is nearly 45,000 workers, 19,000 of whom work for private employers, the remainder for the government.

Lewis "Purge" Stopped Cold

574 Heads Confident Of Smashing Victory

Cannon, on the Scene, Reports Drivers Local Stronger than Ever and the Center of the Minneapolis Labor Movement

By JAMES P. CANNON
MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 20.—One doesn't have to be here very long to learn that William Green picked the poorest spot in the country to begin his ill-fated campaign against radicalism and militancy in the A. F. of L. Meyer Lewis, the man selected by Green to do the job here, has made such a miserable showing that his early elimination from the scene is freely predicted on all sides. The stormy reception accorded him at the Central Labor Union the other night—his first appearance before a labor body after numerous speeches before employers' meetings, luncheons and teas—showed that he has ceased to inspire any fear even among the old-line labor leaders and has become a nuisance and a joke.

Meantime Local 574, the spearhead of progressivism and militancy, which met his red-baiting campaign with a savage counter-offensive, is still fighting, going stronger than ever and recruiting new members daily.

574 Demands Return of Charter

In a direct move to conciliate the struggle, the Central Labor Union has appointed a special committee, supplementary to its executive board and jointly with it, to negotiate with local 574. These negotiations are now in progress. In conference with the C.L.U. committee, and in a statement prepared today, the executive board of Local 574 reiterated its basic position that a fundamental settlement of the issue necessitates the restoration of its charter and the recognition of the jurisdictional rights obtaining prior to its revocation. Local 574, in its statement, showed from the record that it had not infringed on the jurisdiction of any other unions but, on the contrary, had cooperated with them in their struggles and helped to build them up. At the same time it asserted the firm determination to maintain the organization it has built at the cost of so much blood and sacrifice and to defend itself against attacks from any quarter, regardless of whether they come from the Citizens Alliance, Mayor Latimer's police, or misleaders sowing disruption in the labor movement.

Local 574 is well-equipped for the fight. Its leaders count on victory with a superb self-confidence. The magnificent organization which went through the great strikes of 1934 with such a shining record is not fighting with its back to the wall any more. The morale of its membership, tested and hardened in heroic battles, is on the heights. Job control is more secure than ever. The authority of the leadership is undisputed. The sympathy of the rank and file of organized labor is outspokenly on the side of local 574. Unless all signs fail progressive unionism will come out of the present conflict in Minneapolis with a smashing victory which will herald the collapse of the anti-Red campaign on a national scale.

Next week I will provide the readers of the NEW MILITANT with a first-hand account in some detail of the present situation of local 574 and the facts in the situation which justify every militant in the labor movement in looking to the outcome of the struggle here with enthusiasm and hope.

GET SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 8-PAGE NEW MILITANT.

Jim-Crow Justice Keeps Angelo Herndon in Jail; Protest Now!

With hundreds of thousands of workers and sympathizers, white and black, anxiously awaiting news as to Angelo Herndon's fate, Judge Hugh M. Dorsey of Atlanta Superior Court on November 13 reserved decision in a suit brought by the International Labor Defense for a writ of habeas corpus. Through this suit, brought for the I.L.D. by Attorneys Seymour and Sutherland, the I.L.D. hopes to upset the sentence of 18 to 20 years on a chain gang.

Herndon, whose appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court was thrown out on the technical ground that it had not been properly prepared for in the lower courts, is today in Fulton Tower Jail in Atlanta. Should Judge Dorsey grant the writ, the prosecution would go over his head and appeal to the Georgia Supreme Court to order Herndon's rearrest. The fight will almost certainly go to the U. S. Supreme Court again before it is settled. While no organized effort was made to induce sympathizers with the Herndon struggle to show their interest by attending the hearing, it is an interesting fact that the Negro section of the court was crowded and that several dozen whites, a number of whom were sympathetic to Herndon, were also present.

Defense Arguments for Herndon

The constitutional questions involved were argued in the Atlanta Court by Whitney North Seymour, former U. S. Assistant Solicitor General, who presented a masterful legal argument in a dignified, forceful manner. He contended that Herndon had been denied due process of law, and that the 1866 Insurrection Law under which he was convicted is unconstitutional. Solicitor Lecraw of Fulton County, representing the Jim Crow

Meyer Lewis Has to Catch Train--

After Students and 574 President Get Thru with Him

MINNEAPOLIS.—On Tuesday, Nov. 12, Meyer Lewis, the mighty union splitter, was scheduled to appear before the University of Minnesota Student Forum and tell how he was going to make the world safe for trade union bureaucracy.

Undoubtedly, Meyer considered this occasion as just another step in his program of rallying non-union support in his and Bill Green's campaign for the destruction of the living union movement. The subject of his talk, as it appeared on placards distributed all over the campus, was "The A. F. of L. Red Purge in Minneapolis." Meyer thought, unquestionably, that he was going to hold forth, this time also, before another boss club—a junior edition of the Citizens Alliance or of the Chamber of Commerce, perhaps. He thought, too, that it would be easy going; wouldn't the students, like any other boss organization, simply drink in every word he had to say and accept it as the gospel truth? Wouldn't they just adore his union-splitting tricks?

Meyer Meets Bill Brown

Meyer was sitting upon a settee in the room where the Forum meets, waiting for the meeting to begin and in the meantime basking in the glory of his anticipated victory. In a few minutes, as if by a dash of cold water, Meyer was rudely brought back to reality. Bill Brown, Ray Dunne and Grant Dunne walked in through the door of the Forum hall. A student at the university, sympathetic to 574, having learned of Lewis' scheduled appearance at the Forum, had invited the leaders of 574 to come down so that they could get the dope direct from Lewis' own lips. As the leaders of 574 walked through the door, they were greeted by "Hi, there Bill! Do you know Meyer Lewis? Meet Bill Brown, president of 574." Bill Brown shook hands and said, "Meyer, do you know Ray and Grant Dunne?" This was the first time that Meyer had come face to face with the leaders of 574, whom he was trying to purge. It was a rude shock for him, indeed. But the leaders of 574 enjoyed it immensely; they obtained front row seats, right under Lewis' nose. You see, they didn't want to miss a word!

When Lewis got up to talk, he was not going to talk about the A. F. of L. (Continued from Page 2)

Complete information on these latest moves is still lacking, but reliable sources have indicated that the above exposures will not only be further related, but that they may be extended to include those persons high up in the "leadership" of the A. F. of L. with whom Bradley must have been acting in full accord.

Once again the membership of the A. F. of L. is getting a chance to peer into the inner life of the labor bureaucracy. And what a stench comes forth! Here are the men who want weak, easily-dominated unions, unions in which the backbone of progressive and radical thought has been broken. Labor throughout the country must answer with a full-throated cry AGAINST their splitting policies.

Scottsboro Boys in Danger as Southern Bourbons Hint Deal

Two days after new indictments were returned against the Scottsboro boys by a grand jury, an authoritative spokesman of the Alabama authorities openly intimated they were prepared to let the Scottsboro boys off, if the International Labor Defense were prepared to make a deal.

The Bourbon Deal

"In the opinion of many Alabamians the prime thing to be considered today is whether the International Labor Defense shall be permitted to win a famous victory and exploit it to further the Communist movement among the Southern Negroes," declares Graves in the New York Times of November 16. "These Alabamians would be well satisfied if the defense could be taken over by some well-known Southern lawyer or lawyers and an acquittal won under such command. They do not believe acquittal would be wise if the I.L.D. were in a position to claim credit for it and they do not believe an acquit-

Stormy C.L.U. Rally in Mpls. Voices Protest

Green Stooze Forced to Backwater on Hosiery Strike Despite Solidarity with 574; C.P. Plays Cowardly Role.

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 18.—Meyer Lewis, despite the fact that he has the complete backing of William Green, Farmer-Labor Mayor Latimer, and the bosses—with the Communist Party helping in its own way—lost every round in last week's battle to split the strong Minneapolis labor movement and smash fighting Local 574. The regular Tuesday noon business agents' luncheon openly opposed him, and had to be hurriedly adjourned. At the Tuesday Student Forum at the University of Minnesota, where Lewis spoke, he was given the most brutal verbal wracking that a speaker there has ever received.

On Wednesday night the membership of the expelled Laundry Workers Local No. 18005 voted unanimously to support its executive board in repudiating Lewis and continuing friendly relations with Local 574. Lewis' appearance at the Central Labor Union meeting Wednesday night, the first time he has appeared there in his six weeks' stay in Minneapolis, was the signal for one of the stormiest sessions the C.L.U. has ever seen. Not one delegate took the floor to support Lewis.

FRAME-UP!

Militant 574 Leader Arrested on Fake Charges

MINNEAPOLIS.—To secure adverse publicity against General Drivers Local 574, harass the union financially and attempt to shake the morale of the union members, the Farmer-Labor administration of Minneapolis is digging up forgotten cases connected with the May, 1934 strike.

Harry De Boer, member of the Executive Board of 574, and Phillip Scott, who was tried and acquitted last winter on the charge of killing the employer-vigilante Lyman in the July, 1934 strike, have been arrested, and warrants sworn out against three other union members. The five men technically defaulted bail of \$25 each on picketing charges connected with the May strike. The cases were long forgotten—until, eighteen months later, the reactionaries launched their union-busting campaign with the cooperation of Farmer-Labor Mayor Latimer. The move is an obvious attempt to strike at the union in the midst of the "red scare."

Another projected move against the Minneapolis progressives, according to reliable information, is the handing down by the next grand jury of indictments under the criminal syndicalism law which, despite years of Farmer-Labor rule, is still on the statute books of Minnesota. The information is that these indictments will be based on the battles which took place during the recent strike at the Flour City Iron Works, when Farmer-Labor police attacked the picket lines three successive nights and killed two workers.

The Non-Partisan Labor Defense is taking charge of the cases of the arrested union members and will expose the political purpose behind the resurrection of these old cases.

Emptyness of Supreme Court Decision

In the same article, the Alabama editor boasts that the U.S. Supreme Court decision requiring placing of Negroes on jury rolls, does not interfere with chauvinist exclusion of Negroes. The dispatch with which the Southern rulers have rendered meaningless the legalistic requirements of the Supreme Court proves to the hilt that their "honor" does not exist where "white supremacy"—which is actually the policy of divide and rule—is involved. If the I.L.D. opportunistically turns the case over to "respectable people" and the necessary militant mass support of the labor movement is not built up, the Scottsboro boys are in greater danger than they were when the I.L.D. combined a sectarian policy of adventurist stunts under the sole banner of the C. P. and the I.L.D. with trimmings in the form of Attorney Liebowitz's catering to Southern prejudices. Only evidence of the determination of the organized political and trade union forces of labor to support the Scottsboro fight will convince the Alabama bourbons that the Scottsboro boys must be freed.

574 Goes to College

At the Tuesday business agents luncheon, one of the delegates rose and demanded point-blank that the group reach a decision on the Lewis-Green drive; as for himself, he was completely opposed to Lewis' fight on 574. Support immediately rallied to this suggestion, with the result that Pat Corcoran, chairman, had to hurriedly adjourn the meeting.

At about the same time, Mr. Lewis was making the fatal mistake of addressing a student forum at the University (reported elsewhere in this issue), and got the drubbing of his life. The affair was a field-day for 574, a pleasant interlude in the bitter struggle that is taking place in Minneapolis today. Incidentally the Minnesota Daily, student newspaper, came out next day with a story and editorial attacking Lewis, and that night broadcast over the university radio station the story (Continued from Page 2)